1	2	3	4
22	Giridih	UG	Reserve depletion, adverse economy
23	Tapin-S	OC	Adverse economy and land problem
24	Govindpur	OC	Adverse economy and land problem
25	Saunda—D	OC	Fire, adverse geo-mining condition, adverse economy, land problem
26	Tapin-S	UG	Reserve depleted
27	Hindegir	UG	Adverse economy, depletion of Reserve
28	Dhori Khas	OC	Depletion of economic reserve

OC—Opencast
UG—Underground
HFL—Highest Flood Level OCP—Opencast Project

Pilot project scheme in Karnataka

2433. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts offices functioning in Karnataka;

(b) the number of new post offices proposed to be opened during 2005-06 in Karnataka;

(c) whether there is any proposal to implement a pilot project at present being implemented in Maharashtra for the people to remit the money in post offices as well as avail credit; and

(d) what are the other various people friendly measures taken up in Karnataka during 2005-06?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) There are 9877 Post Offices functioning in Karnataka as on 31.3.05.

(b) No targets have been fixed for opening of Post Offices for the year 2005-06 in Karnataka. Post Offices are to be opened by relocation as per the department norms. The 10th Plan policy requires the Department to rationalize the postal network and explore more cost effective means of providing postal facilities and increasing access to them in order to reduce the dependence on budgetary support for this purpose.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) A number of people friendly measures have been taken in 2005-06 in Karnataka like.

(i) Collecting mail from the residences of customers through postmen for dispatch;

(ii) Segregated priority handling of marriage invitations through "VIVAHA" Channel;

(1ii) Sale of City Bus Passes in select Post Offices in Bangalore;

(iv) Extension of Business hours of Post Offices in select important cities; and

(v) Break-fast delivery—(early morning delivery of speed post/ unregistered articles to the customer).

Construction of Dharmapuri Post Office building

2434. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new building for Dharmapuri Head Post Office in Tamil Nadu has been constructed long back;

(b) if so, whether: it has not been opened yet;

(c) the reasons for not opening it; and

(d) by when it would be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Dharmapuri Head Post Office construction work will be completed shortly.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

(d) It will be opened by the end of January, 2006.

Digital divide between rural and urban areas

2435. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the digital divide between rural and urban areas is increasing day-by-day;